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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/728,885	12/08/2003	Shigeo Nanno	032046	9662

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EXAMINER

ROYER, WILLIAM J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2852

DATE MAILED: 09/21/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AK

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/728,885	Applicant(s) NANNO, SHIGEO	
	Examiner William J. Royer	Art Unit 2852	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 and 22-25 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 19-21 and 26-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08 December 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12082003</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

Drawings

The drawings are objected to because of the following informalities:

In Figure 15, change each occurrence of "38" to --- 33 ---.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Art Unit: 2852

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

In paragraph [0004], line 3, change "in main body" to --- in the main body ---.

In paragraph [0006], line 11, after "transportation" insert --- unit ---.

In paragraph [0007], lines 3, 10, 12-13 and 14, change each occurrence of "device main body" to --- main body of the image forming device ---.

In paragraph [0007], line 9, after "transportation" insert --- unit ---.

In paragraph [0008], line 5, change "the contact" to --- contact ---.

In paragraph [0009], line 6, change "device main body" to --- main body of the image forming device ---.

In paragraph [0009], line 9, change "device" to --- image forming device ---.

In paragraph [0009], line 11, change "under even" to --- under an even ---.

In paragraph [0025], line 2, change "details" to --- detail ---.

In paragraph [0029], line 11, change "the supply" to --- a supply ---.

In paragraph [0029], line 11, change "the developing" to --- a developing ---.

In paragraph [0029], line 16, change "the press" to --- a press ---.

In paragraph [0032], lines 14, 16 and 19, change "device main body" to --- image forming device ---.

In paragraph [0034], lines 1 and 7, change "device main body" to --- image forming device ---.

In paragraph [0035], line 11, change "a paper" to --- the paper ---.

In paragraph [0037], line 15, change "transporting" to --- transportation ---.

In paragraph [0037], line 16, after "bed" insert --- platen ---.

Art Unit: 2852

In paragraph [0037], line 18, change "part" to --- unit ---.

In paragraph [0037], line 18, change "the housing 5" to --- a housing 5 of the image forming device 1 ---.

In paragraph [0038], line 12, delete --- 29 ---.

In paragraph [0038], line 13, change "in a close" to --- in close ---.

In paragraph [0039], line 5, after "unit" insert --- 43 ---.

In paragraph [0039], line 6, change "the distance" to --- a distance ---.

In paragraph [0039], line 10, after "device" insert --- 1 ---.

In paragraph [0040], line 2, change "the distance" to --- a distance ---.

In paragraph [0042], line 11, after "unit" insert --- 43 ---.

In paragraph [0046], lines 6 and 7, before "supporting" insert --- gear ---.

In paragraph [0046], line 11, change "smaller" to --- small ---.

In paragraph [0046], line 13, change "larger" to --- large ---.

In paragraph [0047], line 1, change "smaller" to --- small ---.

In paragraph [0047], line 10, after "device" insert --- 1 ---.

In paragraph [0048], line 1, change "smaller" to --- small ---.

In paragraph [0049], line 3, change "smaller" to --- small ---.

In paragraph [0056], lines 3-4, "held to the reversible transportation unit 43 side than the maximum opened" should be rewritten in a more grammatically correct form.

In paragraph [0056], line 4, change "unit 43 side" to --- unit side ---.

In paragraph [0057], line 6, change "150" to --- 148 ---.

In paragraph [0059], line 5, after "screws" insert --- 156 ---.

Art Unit: 2852

In the abstract, line 13, change "a motor a motor" to --- a motor ---.

In the abstract, line 14, after "outward" insert --- from ---.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

Claims 1 and 12 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 1, line 15, change "main body frame" to --- main body --- since only a "main body" has been defined in the claim previously.

Claim 12, line 3, change "main body frame" to --- main body --- since only a "main body" has been defined in the claim previously.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 19-21 and 26-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 19, line 5, the reference to "the storage opening" is indefinite because a "storage opening" has not been defined previously and it is unclear whether the "storage opening" and the "storage unit" are the same element or different elements.

Art Unit: 2852

Claim 26, lines 11-12, "the contacting surface of the motor" lacks proper antecedent basis and is therefore indefinite because a "motor" has not been defined in the claim previously.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 19-21 and 26-29 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

Claims 1-18 and 22-25 are allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art of record fails to teach or suggest providing an image forming device with a reversible transportation unit that includes a motor which drives transportation rollers and is disposed protruding outward from a contacting surface of a main body so that at least a part of the motor is disposed in the image forming device when the reversible transportation unit is inserted into the image forming device. Claims 19-21 would be allowable if the above noted 112 rejections are overcome since they depend from Claim 16. It appears that Claims 26-29 may be allowable for similar reasons as stated above for Claims 1-18 and 22-25, however, the indefiniteness of the motor limitation makes it unclear at this time whether Claims 26-29 are claiming similar subject matter to that which was claimed in claims 1-18 and 22-25 or different subject matter.

Relevant Prior Art

The following prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Namiki discloses an image forming device that includes a both-surface frame including a retractable re-feeding path unit.

Yokomizo et al disclose an image forming apparatus that includes a detachably provided sheet re-feeding path.

Saito et al disclose a driving system for a detachable duplex printing unit.

Yasui et al '032 disclose an image forming apparatus having selectably controlled sheet discharge paths.

Yoshikawa et al disclose a duplex unit with a recess for retracting a manual sheet feeding tray.

Ahn et al disclose an image forming apparatus that has a modular duplex printing unit that is removable and attachable as needed.

Yasui et al '749 disclose a duplex conveyance unit that is removably attached to an image forming apparatus.

Contact Information


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William J. Royer whose telephone number is (571) 272-2140. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday and alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Arthur T. Grimley can be reached on (571) 272-2136. The fax phone

Art Unit: 2852

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "William J. Royer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "William" and last name "Royer" clearly distinguishable.

William J. Royer
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2852

wjr
September 16, 2005